



Northwest Florida Water Management District

81 Water Management Drive, Havana, Florida 32333-4712
(U.S. Highway 90, 10 miles west of Tallahassee)

Lyle Seigler
Executive Director

Phone: (850) 539-5999 • Fax: (850) 539-2777

September 29, 2023

The Honorable Ron DeSantis, Governor
State of Florida
The Capitol PL-01
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Subject: Northwest Florida Water Management District
Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24

Dear Governor DeSantis:

The Northwest Florida Water Management District respectfully submits the District's Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 in accordance with section 373.536, Florida Statutes.

On September 28, 2023, the District's Governing Board adopted a \$115.3 million budget, which uses the rolled-back millage rate for taxpayers while maintaining a focus on priority areas including funding of water quality projects that help maximize nutrient reductions, consistent with Executive Orders 19-12 and 23-06.

The District's budget is built on a foundation of projects that are directly in line with its statutory mission of water quality, water supply, natural systems, and flood protections, including:

- \$65.9 million for Springs Projects. This funding will enable the District to implement or continue restoration and protection projects for Wakulla Spring, Jackson Blue Spring, and springs associated with the St. Marks River, Chipola River, Econfinia Creek, and Holmes Creek. The budget includes continuing support for septic-to-sewer projects that will improve water quality in Wakulla Spring and Jackson Blue Spring and cost-share funding for agricultural best management practices.
- \$16.0 million for alternative water supply development, water supply development assistance, and water resource development. Funded projects include support for major reclaimed water construction projects in Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, and Bay counties.
- \$7.1 million for watershed restoration. This funding will allow the District to facilitate continued efforts to protect and restore water quality and aquatic habitats through cooperative water quality improvement projects and best management practices. Funded projects include stormwater retrofits and septic tank abatement benefitting St. Joseph Bay, Apalachicola Bay, and St. Andrew Bay; innovative technology to address harmful algal blooms and nutrient enrichment; and a dedicated assessment of freshwater inflows in St. Joseph Bay, Lake Wimico, and East Bay.
- \$4.5 million for hurricane recovery and land management efforts. This funding will continue debris cleanup on District lands with a focus on those areas deemed catastrophically or severely damaged, reforestation with prescribed burns and tree planting, and repairs and maintenance efforts for public access and recreational amenities on District lands.

GEORGE ROBERTS
Chair
Panama City

JERRY PATE
Vice Chair
Pensacola

NICK PATRONIS
Secretary
Panama City

JOHN W. ALTER
Malone

GUS ANDREWS
DeFuniak Springs

TED EVERETT
Chipley

KELLIE RALSTON
Tallahassee

ANNA UPTON
Tallahassee

- \$1.9 million for Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels technical assessments for Jackson Blue Spring, the Gainer Spring Group, Sylvan Spring Group, Williford Spring Group, and the Floridan aquifer in coastal Bay County.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the District's FY 2023-24 Budget. If I can be of any assistance or provide further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Lyle Seigler
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc:

The Honorable Kathleen Passidomo, President, Florida Senate
 The Honorable Paul Renner, Speaker, Florida House of Representatives
 The Honorable Doug Broxson, Chair, Senate Committee on Appropriations
 The Honorable Jason Brodeur, Chair, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government
 The Honorable Ana Maria Rodriguez, Chair, Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
 The Honorable Thomas J. Leek, Chair, House Appropriations Committee
 The Honorable Thad Altman, Chair, House Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee
 The Honorable Bobby Payne, Chair, House Infrastructure Strategies Committee
 The Honorable James Buchanan, Chair, House Agriculture, Conservation, and Resiliency Subcommittee
 The Honorable Cyndi Stevenson, Chair, House Water Quality, Supply, and Treatment Subcommittee
 Executive Office of the Governor
 Shawn Hamilton, Secretary, Florida Department of Environmental Protection



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RESOLUTION NO. 933

Adoption of Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature created the Northwest Florida Water Management District under Chapter 373, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the ensuing 2023-2024 fiscal year of the Northwest Florida Water Management District shall extend from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Florida Water Management District is authorized by Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, to adopt a budget in accordance with the provisions of Section 200.065, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Florida Water Management District held a Public Hearing as required by Section 200.065, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the District has adopted Resolution 932, which establishes the millage-levy for Fiscal Year 2023-2024; and

WHEREAS, programs and projects which are of District benefit will be supported with ad valorem tax revenues and other funding sources as reflected in the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget of \$115,272,656.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Board of the Northwest Florida Water Management District, that:


1. The Fiscal Year Final 2023-2024 budget be adopted; and
2. This resolution will take effect immediately upon the adoption.

DULY ADOPTED at a public hearing this 28th day of September 2023, A.D.

Time Adopted 5:10 PM

The Governing Board of the
**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

ATTEST:


Chair


Secretary-Treasurer



GEORGE ROBERTS
Chair
Panama City

JOHN W. ALTER
Malone

GUS ANDREWS
DeFuniak Springs

JERRY PATE
Vice Chair
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KELLIE RALSTON
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Secretary
Panama City

ANNA UPTON
Tallahassee

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 ADOPTED BUDGET BY FUND**

DESCRIPTION	General Fund	Capital Improvement & Lands Acquisition	Special Projects	Lands Management	Regulation	Mitigation	TOTAL
Cash Balances Brought Forward	16,617,570	289,904	3,608,286	2,201,537	3,644,026	2,775,579	29,136,902
<u>ESTIMATED REVENUES:</u>							
TAXES: Millage Per \$1000							
Ad Valorem Taxes .0234	1,234,367		2,647,982		17,651		3,900,000
Federal Grants			5,791,742				5,791,742
DEP - WML Trust Fund			299,907				299,907
DEP - Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund			2,803,495				2,803,495
Ecosystem			54,181				54,181
DEP - Land Acquisition Trust Fund	230,018	10,905,665	54,140,785	5,418,832	4,445,622		75,140,922
Mitigation						2,180,729	2,180,729
State Funds			17,376,430	40,000	8,923		17,425,353
Local Government Units			161,574	279			161,853
Permitting and Licensing					655,000		655,000
Miscellaneous Revenues		813,798		407,599	45,000	35,000	1,301,397
Interfund Transfers	2,258,282		2,701,914				4,960,196
Total Estimated Revenues, Transfers and Balances	20,340,237	12,009,367	89,586,296	8,068,247	8,816,222	4,991,308	143,811,677
<u>ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES:</u>							
Salaries & Benefits	2,676,313	106,263	3,281,948	1,856,871	3,769,504	448,362	12,139,261
Other Personal Services	648		38,944	73,259	74,363	2,482	189,696
Contractual Services	336,298	310,991	6,964,859	3,676,460	197,928	1,596,561	13,083,097
Operating Expenses	542,167	1,300	594,295	1,207,452	670,015	70,976	3,086,205
Operating Capital Outlay	151,851		153,411	711,800	123,622	2,520	1,143,204
Fixed Capital Outlay	50,000	11,278,295		65,000			11,393,295
Grants and Aids			74,237,898				74,237,898
Reserves	13,655,656	289,904	3,608,286	86,655	3,162,745	2,775,579	23,578,825
Interfund Transfers	2,927,304	22,614	706,655	390,750	818,045	94,828	4,960,196
Total Appropriated Expenditures, Transfers and Reserves	20,340,237	12,009,367	89,586,296	8,068,247	8,816,222	4,991,308	143,811,677